



#31<sup>CM</sup>  
And E  
2-26-04

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Mitsuaki OSHIMA et al.

Serial No. 09/672,946

Filed September 29, 2000

COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

:  
: Docket No. 2000\_1328  
: Group Art Unit 2634  
: Examiner A. Le  
: Confirmation No. 7022

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FEB 18 2004

Technology Center 2600

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed November 13, 2003, please amend the application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 31-39 and add new claims 40-48 as follows.

40. A signal transmission and receiving system comprising a transmission apparatus and a receiving apparatus,

said transmission apparatus comprising:

- a mapper operable to map a first data stream to a 2-level mapped signal having two levels separated by a first amount, and to map a second data stream to an 8-level mapped signal having eight levels, each adjacent two levels of which are separated by a second amount that is less than the first amount;

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